



Angélica Infante-Green
Commissioner

State of Rhode Island
DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

Frequently Asked Questions LEA Strategic Plan Review Process

The purpose of this document is to provide answers to Frequently Asked Questions as they relate to the newly established Strategic Plan Review and Feedback process. This document was last updated on August 21, 2023.

1. **What does the LEA Strategic Plan Review Process look like?**

During the summer of 2023, there were 64 LEA Strategic Plan Reviews conducted as part of a review cycle that would assist each LEA to ensure compliance with the Education Accountability Act of 2019 (EAA) and help inform a continuous cycle of reflection and growth. A Strategic Plan Review Team member began with a review of the LEA District Report Card and then used this high-level analysis to provide strategic plan feedback using an LEA Strategic Plan Review and Feedback Tool. A second member of the review team, from our RIDE partner, DM Group, followed the same steps and then the two members calibrated their results. A member of the Office of School and District Improvement (OSDI) provided a third review of the plan.

2. **Who is the Strategic Plan Review Team?**

The Strategic Plan Review Team includes cross-department members from the RI Department of Education (RIDE), partnered with the District Management Group (DM Group or DMG). The RIDE Office of School and District Improvement Team has served as the steering committee for the LEA Strategic Plan Review Process. All members of the Strategic Plan Review Team have participated in multiple training and calibration sessions.

3. **In what order were the Plans reviewed?**

Plans are reviewed in the order of their submission and then feedback is provided back to LEAs as it is completed.

4. **How was the LEA Strategic Plan Review and Feedback Tool developed?**

The LEA Strategic Plan Review and Feedback Tool was developed by the RIDE Office of School and District Improvement with guidance and input from RIDE leadership. It was based on the RIDE Strategic Plan Template, RIDE Strategic Plan Guidance, and the requirements of the RI Education Accountability Act of 2019 (EAA).

5. **What type of tool is the LEA Strategic Plan Review and Feedback Tool?**

The LEA Strategic Plan Review and Feedback Tool considers the individual characteristics of the plan and assesses each characteristic separately, so it is an analytic rubric. Each characteristic is called a component.



Angélica Infante-Green
Commissioner

State of Rhode Island
DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

6. How many components are there and how are they rated?

The Tool has 17 components. Each component is rated as (1) met, (2) not met, or (3) not applicable (n/a). In addition, each component has an area for the reviewer to provide comments. The comments in each component are broken down into (1) positive notes, (2) required actions, and (3) recommendation notes. If a component was scored as not met, then a comment in the required action section will describe the reason why it did not meet, along with the action the LEA must make on that component.

7. The LEA Strategic Plan Review and Feedback Tool has carrots (^) on it. What do those symbols indicate?

The carrot symbol (^) indicates that the statement is a requirement per RI Regulation and General Law. This includes the requirements of the Education Accountability Act of 2019 (EAA).

8. What is the LEA Report Card Organizer?

The LEA Report Card Organizer, also developed by the RIDE Office of School and District Improvement, is a district-specific summary of your accountability data. It was created to help visually represent data and relationships between various components in the LEA's Accountability Report Card. The review and feedback of the plans have incorporated the most important aspects of the Report Card. For example, the LEA assessment results, focus areas, low-performing subgroups (if applicable), and their areas of low performance were all cross-referenced with the LEA plan components to ensure compliance with EAA.

9. Why does each LEA need to submit its Strategic Plan to RIDE?

The Education Accountability Act of 2019 (EAA) requires all LEAs to submit a Strategic Plan at least once in a three-year period to RIDE and requires all schools to submit a School Improvement Plan annually to their Superintendent. The LEA Strategic Plan and School Improvement Plans serve as a roadmap for LEAs to systematically work to improve student outcomes and school performance. All LEA Strategic Plans were due for submission into the Strategic Planning System (SPS), including single-school LEAs which were due on July 1. In addition, school improvement plans were due on June 1.

10. What is the goal of the LEA Strategic Plan Review Process?

In response to the iterative nature of strategic planning, we have developed a tool that will provide formative and actionable feedback to assist each LEA to, at a minimum, ensure compliance with the EAA while helping to inform a continuous cycle of reflection and growth. It is our goal to enable LEA leaders to reflect on a concerted focus of aligning each of the LEA's systems in service of improving student achievement. A simple, clear, and coherent Strategic Plan will serve as a blueprint and guiding document for all decisions that are made in the LEA.



Angélica Infante-Green
Commissioner

State of Rhode Island
DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

11. What information is provided to the LEA after the LEA Strategic Plan Review is completed?

Each LEA will receive a completed LEA Strategic Plan Review and Feedback Tool, LEA Report Card Organizer. An LEA Strategic Plan Review FAQ (this document) will also be provided to each LEA. A copy of a presentation of the RI's 2030 Goals at the State and LEA Levels will also be included.

12. Can the LEA Strategic Plan be updated?

Yes, it is strongly recommended that an LEA plan be updated to meet compliance with RI General Laws and Regulations, including the Educational Accountability Act of 2019. In addition, a Strategic Plan is meant to be a dynamic document that reflects the LEA's current needs. As the LEA environment and context change, the LEA should update priorities, measurable goals, initiatives, and action steps to address their newly identified needs. In addition, report card/accountability data, progress monitoring (measurable goal), and budget information should be updated as necessary.

13. Where can I find additional resources to assist with strategic planning?

The Strategic Planning System (SPS) has resources available in the RESOURCES section of the Rhode Island Strategic Planning System (SPS) system. SPS can be accessed by logging into the RIDE PORTAL (Select ALL APPLICATIONS and then select STRATEGIC PLANNING SYSTEM).

In addition, there is information linked from the list below:

[LEA Strategic Plan Template](#)

[Sample LEA Strategic Plan](#)

[LEA Strategic Planning FAQs](#)

[Resource Allocation Tool](#)

[Self-Assessment Tool](#)

[EAA Guidance Document](#)

14. Who should I contact if I have questions about my plan, the planning process, or my feedback?

Please reach out to your LEA Strategic Plan Reviewer directly. As always, you can email the Office of School and District Improvement with any questions: osdi@ride.ri.gov.